

## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEETING MINUTES

February 21, 2017

**Attendees:** Cheryl Forster, Allison Truslow, Jennifer Gilkie, Liz Larson, Shelley Quinn, Michele Burke, Jan Madigan, Paula Szhmidu, Jeanne Neverisky, Christine Farris, Stephanie Tannariello, Nancy Spears, Gwen Sliger, Sally Harrington, Jane Cosmo, Amy Lapointe, Lisa Walker, Gretchen Pyle, Zola Brown

**Chair's Report:** (Cheryl Forster) Chair called meeting to order at 1:07 pm and welcomed our two newest members:

- Jennifer Gilkie: Taking over the Student Art Show
- Jeanne Neversiky: Taking over Professional Art Display

**Minutes:** Accepted with amendments.

**Secretary Report/Correspondence:** (Allison Truslow) We received a note thanking the Friends of the Library for the Sunday Concert. No other correspondence.

**Treasurer Report:** (Michele Burke)

- Open Balance: \$23,683.84
- Income from membership, Trivia night, Student Art show sponsorship, online books and bank interest: \$2906.22
- Expenses from concerts, art supplies, student awards, and a \$1,500 payment on the new bookcase and plaque: \$2,110.24
- Ending Balance: \$24,479.82
- Projected/Committed expenses for the upcoming fiscal year: approx. \$7,500

**Trustee/ Library Director Report:** (Amy LaPointe)

- Lots of fun upcoming programs for kids: see flyer!
- Art workshop scheduled.
- April: National Library month and celebration of 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of dedication of the library building.
- April 2<sup>nd</sup>: Concert scheduled is Music of the Emerald Isle. Suggestion that we use this event to unveil the bookcase and plaque in honor of Elaine Bennett. Allison Truslow will contact Mr. Jim Bennett to coordinate his attendance.

**Committee Reports:**

**Membership:** 147 (record high!)

- Concerts: raising our visibility
- Recommendation: FOL membership table at concerts. Cheryl
- If we reach 150 – make special announcement
- More patrons than we've ever had. Up to 7 patrons.

**Trivia Night:** (Stephanie Tannariello and Liz Larson):

- Trivia Night is March 18, 2017.
- New emcee will be Porter Dodge, AMS Principal (and we have a back up emcee lined up as well).
- All 18 tables are sold! Spectator tickets are still available.
- Can fit in 2 extra tables if need to, but in an awkward spot.
- Raffle prizes: 12
- In the process of finishing up Trivia questions
- Still need volunteers to help March 18<sup>th</sup>. Have confirmed: 10-11. Need total of 14, especially as scorers. Several volunteered themselves and/or husbands. Liz Larson following up.
- Volunteers should arrive at 4/4:30PM at Hampshire Hills. Liz/Steph may contact with additional information and requests.
- Suggestion: Ask Jim Bennett to help at Trivia Night (Liz Larson to follow up.)

#### **Hospitality (Paula):**

- Upcoming: Music of the Emerald Isle event on April 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Suggestion: Would be fun to offer green-themed food items. (Not required, but suggested.)
- Question: What things do people like to see as food? Chocolate covered pretzels were very popular.
- Volunteers: Several people volunteered by hand to contribute to the food on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Paula to follow up and confirm.

#### **Professional Art Display:** (Christine Farris/Jeanne Neversiky)

- Jeanne Neversiky: Assuming responsibility of the Professional Art Display. She will shadow Christine.
- Everything Small Display will come down on February 28.
- Jennifer Cooke's water colors will be hung March 1.
- Artist reception: March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2-4PM
- No artist reception planned for April.
- Corrections/Additions to the Professional Art calendar of events:
  - July: Laura Tyers Paintings
  - August: Tracy Hayes
  - September: Souhegan Quilters Guild – alphabet quilting project
- Christine has a list of interested artists to pass to Jeanne.

#### **Student Art Show:** (Christine Farris/Jennifer Gilkie)

- Jennifer will be assuming the responsibilities of the Student Art Show.
- Christine will mentor her.
- Clark participation: There was miscommunication which indicated (incorrectly) that the Kindergarteners would participate in the Student Art Show. The Clark art teach was very excited and so now the kindergarten art will be included and exhibited on the back wall near the computers. Kindergarten art WILL NOT be included in the jurying process; kindergarteners will receive participation awards.
- Sponsors: 6 confirmed, 2 paid. Trying to get previous sponsors to sign back up. They have until March 15<sup>th</sup> to confirm participation as sponsors. May need to find a few new sponsors.

- Awards: We have a few awards not yet covered by sponsorship. Cheryl indicated that there was a small surplus from last year and extra money available to cover any expenses if needed.
- Jurors: Still lining up jurors. Had invited artists from the recent Everything Small exhibit to participate. Following up on those invitations.
- Cheryl led the way in thanking and applauding Christine for her tremendous efforts in managing both the professional art and student art show while also sourcing replacements as both she and Gwen step down. Thank you, Christine!

**Publicity and Newsletter:** (Andrea Maier)

- Newsletters were mailed. They look good.
- Next newsletter issue planned for after the Student Art Show.

**Display Case:** (Zola Brown)

- Going well. Having to turn away people asking to display!
- March: Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) next
- April: Garden Club. Will contact to see if anyone has a collection to display in April. Zola and Paula will follow up. Gretchen gave an email of her contact as well.

**Trips:** (Jane Cosmo/Jan Madigan)

- Next trip: MOF in Boston for Art In Bloom, Monday, May 1. Tour of all 50 displays, including Amherst Garden Club's entry.
- Time: 8AM – 5:30PM, Cost \$50 (Bus w/ gratuity \$15, MOF admission \$25)
- Limit: 54 people
- Advertising: library newsletter, Amherst Citizen (April 4 issue), Union Leader, Amherst Garden Club newsletter, notice on library door in April, via Bedford Garden Club, email to FOL members. Jan will work with Andrea.
- Registrations open: Now
- Michele: check bus contract
- Suggested Trip: Docent tour at Currier Museum to Deep Cut, led by Paula Schmidu and (maybe) Nancy Baker. The exhibit features very intricate paper artwork. There is also a children's area where a chain link fence has been turned into artwork. Need to set up a date and make plans. Proposed date: Saturday, April 1. Paula/Cheryl to coordinate with museum to confirm date, time and work out fees. Would like an arrangement in which the FOL pay and then attendees can sign up online with the library.

**Book Sale** (Gretchen):

- Date: tentatively picking the weekend after Labor Day. Need to check with Historical Society to see if there will be Antiques on the Green. Have reserved possible date with Congregational Church.
- Aprons: Proposed that volunteers wear aprons as identifiers. Gretchen/Christine have sourced aprons and how to print a logo and the word "Volunteer". Color: Hunter Green with white ink. Approximately \$10.50 each. Details of apron style, color, ink, logo, wording to be determined by Gretchen/Christine. Estimated total price: approx. \$200

- T-Shirts for NAME: Also hunter green with white ink of Amherst Library logo. Want to make sure it's nice and willing to spend a little extra as we need to show our appreciation for their efforts year after year.
- Motion Proposed: Friend of the Amherst Library will give T-Shirts for NAME and buy aprons for Book Sale volunteers to wear. Aprons and T-Shirts will be hunter green, details of logo and final pricing to be left to Gretchen and Christine to determine.
- Motion passed: Commit up to \$300 to work out details and buy aprons and T-shirts.

**\_ add May 1<sup>st</sup> trip to MOF to calendar**

**Online Book Selling:** (Cheryl Foster)

- Online book sale: \$200/month
- If you have good books to donate that are worth more than \$5-10, contact Cheryle. She can sell them online and all net proceeds to go to FOL.

**Other Business / Updates**

**Picnic Tables:** (Cheryl Forster)

- Cheryl has submitted the grant requesting funds for the new benches and picnic table for the Amherst Town Library garden. Waiting to hear back.

**Bookcase in honor of Elaine Bennett:** (Cheryl Forster)

- Bookcase: Looks very nice. We will add a sign to show that it is the Friends of the Library Book Sale shelf.
- Plaque in honor of Elaine. Agreed on the wording as follows: "In memory of Friends of the Amherst Town Library member Elaine Bennett and her love of books."
- April 2<sup>nd</sup>: Will plan to have a presentation at the Sunday concert.

Meeting closed at 2:13 PM

Next meeting: March 12, 2017

Recording Secretary

Allison Truslow